

REMARKS

Applicants submit these remarks in response to the Office Action dated September 26, 2005. Claims 1, 5-11, 13-16, and 18-30 are pending in the application.

The rejection of 1, 5-11, 13-16, 19, and 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 has been withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 1, 6, 10, 13, 16, 29, and 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 has been withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 1, 6, 10, 13, 16, 29, and 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102e over U.S. Patent No. 6,794,397 (to Cai et al.) remains, and a new rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over the same patent (Cai et al.) has been made.

Claims 5, 7, 15, and 22 were objected to as being dependent from rejected claims.

Without acquiescing to the grounds for rejection set forth by the Examiner, the Applicants have cancelled claims 1, 6, 8-11, 13-14, 16, 18-21, and 23-30.

Claims 5 and 15 are amended herein to be independent claims thereby obviating objections based on their dependence on rejected claims. Claim 7 depends from claim 5, which has been modified to be an independent claim, and has therefore not been amended.

Claim 22 was objected to (page 5, line 2 of the 9/26/05 Office Action) as being dependent from a rejected claim. The applicants respectfully submit that claim 22 is an independent claim and that the objection is erroneous.

All of the claims remaining in the application are now believed to be allowable. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

If fees are believed necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 04-0258. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

If questions remain regarding this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (206) 628-7650.

Respectfully submitted,
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